

Message Text

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ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 MC-02 AID-20 IGA-02 TRSE-00 EB-11

COME-00 OMB-01 SS-15 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 USIE-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

RSR-01 /095 W

----- 096232

O 161325Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECDEF WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4364

DA WASHDC

DIVENGR USAEDM LEGHORN IT//MDDVE//

COE RIYADH

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 2955

DOD FOR ISA/MR. NOYES AND FOR ADMIRAL PEET

DA FOR DCSLOG/MR. SHADA

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, SA

SUBJ: MODA REQUEST FOR MILITARY VEHICLES

REF: A. JIDDA 2681 (NOTAL)

B. DA WASHDC DTG 131340Z JUL 73

C. DISTENGR RIYADH DTG 211014Z JUN 73 (NOTAL)

D. STATE 119102 (NOTAL)

1. EMBASSY PLEASED TO LEARN THAT DELIVERY OF 1/4 TON M-151A2 AND
2 1/2 TON M35A2C VEHICLES CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED WITHIN 6-7 MONTHS
AFTER ACCEPTANCE OF CASE, AND WILL SO INFORM PRINCE SULTAN.
WOULD APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION THAT SALES CASES UIZ, UIK, UIL
AND UIM HAVE BEEN EXTENDED UNTIL 31 JULY AS REQUESTED REF C.

2. WE THINK FACT THAT WE ARE UNABLE RPT UNABLE TO SHOW SAUDIS
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EXAMPLES OF REBUILT VEHICLES WE WANT THEM TO BUY MAY AROUSE MIS-

GIVINGS AND CREATE NEW OBSTRUCTIONS FOR US HERE BUT WILL DO OUR BEST OVERCOME THESE. SINCE 5-TON REBUILTS (M54A2, M543A2, M61) CONSTITUTE ONLY ABOUT TEN PERCENT OF PENDING VEHICLE ORDER, WESWILL URGE MINDEF SULTAN TO SIGN SALES CASES FOR REMAINING 90 PERCENT, EXPLAINING THAT REBUILTS ARE NOT CURRENTLY IN PRODUCTION, THUS NOT AVAILABLE FOR DEMONSTRATION.

3. IF SULN STILL WISHES MAKE DECISION ON REBUILTS BEFORE COMMITTING HIMSELF TO REMAINDER OF PACKAGE, WE WILL INVITE HIM TO SEND NO MORE THAN FOUR SAUDI ORDNANCE CORPS OFFICERS TO TOUR RED RIVER REBUILD FACILITY AS PROPOSED REF B. THERE IS NO DOUBT, HOWEVER, THAT THIS INVITATION MUST BE AT USG EXPENSE. REQUEST CONFIRMATION THAT DOD PREPARED FUND VISIT BEFORE AMBASSADOR PRESENTS INVITATION. IF FUNDS A PROBLEM, SUGGEST OFFICERS FLY SAUDIA TO FRANKFURT (326.90 ROUNDTrip, SPECIAL FARE) TO CONNECT WITH ONGOING MAC FLIGHTS.

4. IT WOULD ALSO BE NECESSARY THAT SUSPENSE DATES ON SALES CASES FOR THESE REBUILTS BE EXTENDED UNTIL SUCH TIME SAUDIS HAVE CHANCE MAKE DECISION, STEP THEY MAY NOT BE WILLING TO TAKE UNTIL THEY SEE VEHICLES IN QUESTION. (FYI: CERTAIN MEMBERS SAUDI ORDNANCE CORPS STAFF STILL ANXIOUS THAT WHOLE DEAL BE THROWN TO FOREIGN COMMERCIAL SOURCES. THUS, OWN PRESENTATION MUST BE STRONG ENOUGH AND SUFFICIENTLY FORTHCOMING THAT SULTAN WILL FEEL JUSTIFIED IN OVERRULING ADVICE SENIOR ORDNANCE CORPS MEMBERS WHO DESIRE TOSS OUT USG OFFER. THESE MEMBERS LIKELY SEIZE ON NON-AVAILABILITY OF REBUILT VEHICLES FOR DEMONSTRATION AND INSPECTION AS MEANS TO STIMULATE SULTAN'S DOUBTS ABOUT DESIRABILITY PURCHASE REBUILT VEHICLES END FYI.)

5. ONCE DECISION IS KNOWN ON AVAILABILITY M-800 SERIES VEHICLES (REF D, PARA 1B-1), IT MAY HELP US IF WE ARE ABLE TO OFFER THESE NEW VEHICLES AS ALTERNATES TO 5-TON REBUILT VEHICLES. REQUEST DOD KEEP US INFORMED REGARDING AVAILABILITY THESE VEHICLES.

6. AS AMBASSADOR HOPES SEE SULTAN WITHIN NEXT TWO-THREE DAYS, WOULD MUCH APPRECIATE REPLY BY IMMEDIATE CABLE.
THACHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973JIDDA02955
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS THACHER
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: JIDDA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730732/aaaaaxff.tel
Line Count: 99
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 A. JIDDA 2681 (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17-Aug-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <23-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MODA REQUEST FOR MILITARY VEHICLES
TAGS: MASS, SA
To: n/a
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005